

VZCZCXRO2868
PP RUEHDE RUEHIHL RUEHKUK
DE RUEHBC #0163 2911308
ZNY CCCCC ZZH
P 181308Z OCT 06
FM REO BASRAH
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 0473
INFO RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHINGTON DC
RUCNRAQ/IRAQ COLLECTIVE
RHEHNSC/WHITE HOUSE NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL WASHINGTON DC
RUEHBC/REO BASRAH 0493

C O N F I D E N T I A L BASRAH 000163

SIPDIS

SIPDIS

DEPARTMENT FOR DS, DS/DSS, DS/ITA/NEA, NEA/EX

E.O. 12958: DECL: 10/18/2016

TAGS: ASEC PTER AMGT I2
SUBJECT: FURTHER EXPLANATION OF REO BASRAH'S SECURITY EQUITY

REF: BASRAH 162

CLASSIFIED BY: Bryan T. Bachmann, RSO, REO Basrah, Department of State.

REASON: 1.4 (g)

REO Basrah would like to clarify a statement made in para three of reftel, our cable discussing our October 15, 2006, EAC meeting. The statement referred to weighing the value of the REO's reporting when deciding whether employees should be withdrawn from post. This sentence was unintentionally made too restrictive by citing only reporting instead of the totality of REO operations. As indicated elsewhere in the cable, the value of the REO's operation in toto should be considered in any assessment of whether the REO should be closed. The mission of the REO includes engaging the four provincial governments in the south on a host of issues and seeking to influence them. This includes more open and democratic policies, less restrictive economic strategies, institution of the rule of law, implementation of better security and increasing capacity building. REO employees work closely with Iraqi government officials and our coalition partners, including the British military, to speed the completion of reconstruction projects and restore essential services to citizens in the south. Reporting is only a small part of our mission.

GROSS